Message Text

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SUBJECT: REPORT OF JULY 1973 MEETINGS NATO MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT STEERING COMMITTEE(NMPASC) AND NATO MARITIME PATROL

AIRCRAFT MODERNIZATION SUB-COMMITTEE(MSC).

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REF: A. USNATO 2792 (051845Z JUN 73) B. STATE 115222 (132215Z JUN 73) (NOTAL)

C. USNATO 2927 (151645Z JUN 73) (NOTAL)

D. MAAG GERMANY 09887 (111444Z JUL 73) (NOTAL)

BEGIN SUMMARY. THIS MESSAGE REPORTS ON JULY MEETINGS OF NMPASC AND CONFIDENTIAL

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MSC IN PARIS. THE UNIVAC PRESENTATION TO MSC WAS WELL-PREPARED, WELL-PRESENTED AND WELL-RECEIVED. GERMANY HAS SUSPENDED PARTICIPATION IN MSC FOR ONE MONTH TO ASSESS THE GERMAN MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT PROGRAM. RESULTS OF ASSESSMENT WILL HAVE IMPACT ON GERMAN

DECISION TO CONTINUE IN ATLANTIC II PROGRAM OR NOT. END SUMMARY.

- 1. THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MSC, NOT OPEN TO US, WAS HELD IN PARIS JULY 10. THE PRESENTATION ON UNIVAC 1616 FAMILY OF COMPUTERS WAS MADE TO THE MSC BY UNIVAC PERSONNEL IN PARIS ON JULY 11. PARAGRAPH 1. B. OF REFERENCE (A), PARAGRAPH 1. OF REFERENCE (B) AND REFERENCE (C) ARE GERMANE. ALL PARTICIPATING NATIONS (FRANCE, GERMANY, THE NETHRLANDS) WERE REPRESENTED AT UNIVAC PRESENTATION. THE US WAS REPRESENTED BY CAPTAIN CHISUM, USNATO AND COMMANDER DOWE/ONR LONDON. THE IN-DEPTH, TECHNICAL PRESENTATION WAS PROFESSIONALLY PRESENTED AND WELL-RECEIVED.
- 2. THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE NMPASC WAS HELD IN PARIS ON JULY 12.EXCEPT FOR THE REPRESENTATIVE FROM BELGIUM WHO WAS ABSENT, REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES (BELGIUM, FRANCE, GERMANY, ITALY, THE NETHERLANDS AND THE UNITED STATES) WERE PRESENT. THE US WAS REPRSENTED BY US MEMBER NMPASC (CAPTAIN CHISUM/USNATO). ITEMS OF INTEREST TO US ARE DISCUSSED BELOW:

A. THE LAST ATLANTIC AIRCRAFT ON ORDER (NUMBER 87) IS IN FINAL ASSEMBLY STAGE AND WILL BE DELIVERED TO THE NETHERLANDS IN THE FALL OF 1973. TO DATE THERE ARE NO FURTHER ORDERS FOR THE ATLANTIC I.

- B. THE DRAFT LETTER TO THE CANADIAN MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE (RICHARDON) DISCUSSED IN PARAGRAPH 2.A.(1) OF REFERENCE A. IS APPARENTLY STILL IN THE HANDS OF THE PAST-CHAIRMAN, NMPASC (AVAERT NOW THE BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVE NMPASC). SINCE MR. AVAERT WAS NOT PRESENT AT THIS MEETING THE DISCUSSION OF THE LETTER WAS DELAYED UNTIL THE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF THE NMPASC.
- 3. IT WAS LEARNED THROUGH FORMAL DISCUSSION WITH RELAIBLE GERMAN SOURCE THAT THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT HAS ADVISED THE CAHIRMAN OF THE MODERNIZATION COMMITTEE (RADM IDZERDA, RNN) THAT GERMANY IS SUSPENDING PARTICIPATION IN BOTH THE MODERNIZATION COMMITTEE AND THE MODERNIZATION SUB-COMMITTEE FOR A PERIOD OF ONE MONTH TO ASSESS THE GERMAN MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT PROGRAM. BY MID-CONFIDENTIAL.

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AUGUST THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT PLANS TO ANNOUNCE WHETHER OR NOT GERMANY WILL CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ATLANTIC MODERNIZATION PROGRAM. THIS CORROBORATES PARAGRAPH 6. OF REFERENCE (D). BECAUSE OF REDUCED OPERATIONS DURING SUMMER HOLIDAY PERIOD IN EUROPE, ESPECIALLY AUGUST, THE GERMAN DECISION MAY NOT BE ANNOUNCED UNTIL EARLY FALL. SHOULD GERMANY WITHDRAW, IT CAN BE EXPECTED THAT THE NETHERLANDS WILL ALSO WITHDRAW. THIS COULD LEAD TO THE DEMISE OF THE ATLANTIC II AS A NATO PROGRAM BECAUSE UNDER THE CONDITIONS OF CM(66)-33 SECOND REVISION, UNDER WHICH THE ATLANTIC PROGRAM IS BEING CARRIED OUT, AT LEAST TWO NATIONS MUST COLLABORATE IF A PROGRAM IS TO BE DESIGNATED AS A NATO PROGRAM. AT ANY RATE, THE FUTURE OF THE ATLANTIC II IS HANGING IN THE BALANCE AT THE MOMENT AND THE PROGRAM MAY POSSIBLY BE DISCONTINUED BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR.

IT APPEARS THAT TECHNICAL, LOGISTICAL AND OPERATIONAL FACTORS ARE AT LEAST TO SOME DEGREE GAINING ON POLITICAL FACTORS AS CURRENT CRITERIA FOR CHOICE OF LATE 1970 EARLY 1980 MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENTS FOR GERMANY AND THE NETHERLANDS. RUMSFELD

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TAGS: MASS, ESTC, NATO To: STATE SECDEF INFO OTTAWA

PARIS MAAG BONN GERMANY MAAG NETHERLANDS

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